



To: Community Representatives

From: Thomas Gallagher, Ph.D., Director
Office of Community Liaison
National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Date: October 2002

NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF COMMUNITY LIAISON

Dr. Tom Kindt, Director of the Division of Intramural Research for the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), was the featured presenter at our most recent Community Liaison Council meeting. His topic was the construction of a new NIH-NIAID Biosafety Laboratory (BSL). Dr. Kindt emphasized that NIAID has immediate need for additional BSL-2 and BSL-3 laboratory space. To fill that need, NIAID plans to construct a new building, commonly referred to as Building B. Building B will contain approximately 35,000 square feet of BSL-2 lab space, 15,000 square feet of BSL-3 lab space, a 16,000 square foot vivarium and about 20,000 square feet of offices and conference space. The location of Building B will be east of Building 31 on the Rockville Pike side of the NIH Bethesda campus.



Thomas Gallagher, Ph.D.

There is little doubt that the folks at NIAID are clearly the good guys. They conduct (intramural) and support (extramural) research that strives to understand, treat and ultimately prevent infectious, immunologic and allergic diseases that threaten hundreds of millions of people worldwide. Diseases such as HIV/AIDS, asthma, Lyme disease, multidrug-resistant tuberculosis and viral hepatitis are but a few of the bad guys. Unfortunately, the bad guys are legion and keep getting worse. Hantavirus, dengue, yellow fever, anthrax, Ebola virus, hemorrhagic fever...the list goes on and on. To make a bad situation horrible, add the threat of bioterrorism.

Bioterrorism is defined as "the use of microorganisms that cause human disease, or the toxins released from them, to harm people or elicit widespread fear or intimidation of society." Bioterrorists take pathogens and weaponize them. In short, they try to spread painful and deadly diseases in order to kill folks like you and me, civilians, in hideously, cowardly and painful ways. For anyone who doubts the veracity of bioterrorism, the anthrax attacks of 2001 were a wake-up call in which there were 22 cases (18 confirmed), five deaths and over 30,000 people taking antibiotics. Since that wake-up call, research to defend against pathogens that could be intentionally released into human populations (weaponized) has accelerated. Standing between the civilian population and the bioterrorist is a cadre of NIAID researchers.

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The Community Liaison Council will hold its next meeting on **Thursday, October 17, at 4 p.m.**, in the Natcher Conference Center, Building 45, Conference Room D.

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They are charged with the defensive role of preparing for a biological attack that can happen anywhere, with any pathogen, at any time. As I said, the folks at NIAID are the good guys. Among other important work, they develop new vaccines to use against microbes for which none currently exist. According to Health and Human Services Secretary, Tommy G. Thompson, “research is a vital element of bioterrorism defense.”

The NIH Bethesda campus currently has numerous BSL-2 labs, several BSL-3s and one BSL-4. Building B will house additional BSL-2 and BSL-3 laboratory spaces. In addition, NIAID is building a combination BSL-3 and BSL-4 at its Rocky Mountain lab facility in Montana. The acceleration of NIAID research is not hard to understand. Since the fall of 2001, NIH, most particularly NIAID, has rapidly accelerated basic and clinical research related to the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of diseases that can be used as agents of bioterrorism against civilian populations. The range of pathogenic microbes that can be used in a bioterrorist attack against civilians is very broad, primarily because the civilian population is so diverse (age, preexisting health conditions, mobility) and frequently so concentrated (cities, schools, malls). Also, as we learned in the anthrax attack of 2001, bio-attacks come like a thief in the night: silently, unexpectedly and requiring rapid response. NIAID is the front-line of civilian biomedical defense.

Dr. Kindt pointed out that the NIH Bethesda campus is the right place to build Building B for many reasons:

(1) NIH is best known as a premier biomedical research facility, but it is just as fundamentally a premier biomedical think tank. All of the biosciences freely mix and mingle at Bethesda, and this creates the most important and significant accumulation and interaction of infrastructure and human bio-capital in the world. It is only reasonable that many great research minds working in collaboration are likely to surpass a few great minds working in isolation.

(2) NIAID’s *Strategic Plan for Biodefense Research* stresses basic research into those agents with bioterrorism potential and applied research aimed at developing improved diagnostics, vaccines and therapies. The need for more of both types of research is considered urgent. To increase the current research agenda, more laboratory space is needed contiguous to existing space. Distance can only cause delay.

(3) Scientific Support services are expensive. The more contiguous the bio-facilities, the less the cost for support. Better that research dollars go for research than for maintenance and support.

(4) *No science in an island entire unto itself (with apologies to John Donne), each is a bit of the continent, a part of the main.* The NIH Bethesda campus offers immediate access to such analytic capability as genomics, proteomics and imaging, all readily available on campus. Of course, great science can be done in isolation, but far greater science can be done far more quickly in a nurturing, supportive environment.

The bottom line is straight and clear. The threat is real. Time matters. Likewise location. NIAID plans to do more of what it has been doing since 1887 in the same primary place it has been working as the NIAID since 1955. NIAID plans to expand and to accelerate its work. The NIH Bethesda campus is not just the best place—it is the right place.

NIH Remembers the Victims of September 11, 2001

Last month, NIH joined others around the nation to honor the victims of September 11, 2001. Employees campus-wide joined NIH officials in front of Building 1 on September 11, 2002, for an NIH-wide moment of silence to remember those that were lost last year. In a special tribute, a joint honor guard comprised of members of the NIH police and fire departments presented the colors. The event is archived at <http://videocast.nih.gov>.

NIH CAMPUS NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

NIH To Hold Free Health Forum for Neighboring Community

Do you suffer from chronic pain? Do you or your family know what to do in the event of a stroke? NIH experts will answer these questions and others at one of its many planned health seminars at this year's **FREE** community health forum, *Share the Health: An Exposition of Health Resources from NIH to Its Neighbors*. The event, which is sponsored by the NIH Office of Community Liaison, takes place on **Saturday, October 26, 2002**, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Natcher Conference Center in Building 45 on the NIH campus in Bethesda, Maryland. Featuring activities for all ages, NIH's neighbors and the general public are invited to join the world's leading biomedical research facility for a day of good health.

Have your blood pressure and vision checked; attend free health seminars; collect health information on the latest NIH research; visit state-of-the-art exhibits by NIH institutes; visit NIH's Web site and its links to health information sources; see computer demonstrations on how to access reliable health information on the Internet; participate in muscle-toning workshops; tour and learn how to use the resources of the world's largest medical library and pick up a free, non-mercury thermometer. Children and teens can explore the "Drunken Brain," an interactive exhibit featuring a brain model with flashing lights; tour NIH fire and rescue vehicles; learn about fire prevention, good nutrition and the hazards of mercury; play science games; watch the NIH police canine team sniff out hidden explosives and firearms; discover children's healthy Web sites and watch the Halloween classic comedy, *Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein*, by the National Library of Medicine.

The event is a perfect opportunity to get to know NIH, what it does and who works there, as well as learn about the latest health and disease prevention research. Participants will have access to NIH's speakers, institutes, staff and health information databases. To register, call 301-650-8660 or visit <http://sharethehealth.od.nih.gov>.

Free *Share the Health* Seminars and Workshops

Don't miss out on these hot topics at *Share the Health* on Saturday, October 26, 2002. Register early to guarantee your spot in this important health event!



- Relaxation
- Healthy Web Sites
- Women and Depression
- Osteoporosis Prevention
- Sleep and Sleep Disorders
- Herbal Medicine and Safety
- NIAID's Biodefense Agenda
- Stroke Prevention and Treatment
- Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities
- Oral Complications of Cancer Therapies
- Self-Management of Chronic Diseases
- Nutrient Needs of Older Adults
- Quality of Life at End of Life
- Hispanic Research Initiative
- How To Treat Chronic Pain
- Age-Related Eye Disease
- Alcohol and the Brain
- Cochlear Implants
- Exercise

NIH Health Web Site Now in Spanish

MEDLINEplus, the National Library of Medicine's (NLM) consumer-friendly health Web site, is now offered in Spanish! The new site, located at <http://medlineplus.gov/esp>, provides the Spanish-speaking community with online access to detailed health information. Research has shown that more than half of Hispanic adults in the United States use the Internet, and many are searching for accurate medical and health information. In response to this need, NLM developed its popular consumer health information Web site in Spanish.

Information on hundreds of health topics is available on MEDLINEplus free of charge, 24 hours a day. Visitors to the site have access to accurate, credible information from NIH and other federal government agencies, medical associations and other health-related organizations. Interactive health tutorials, current health news, factual information on various diseases and medical conditions, medical dictionaries, drug information and links to other health resources are all featured on the site.

Be sure to visit MEDLINEplus at <http://medlineplus.gov> or its new Spanish counterpart at <http://medlineplus.gov/esp>.

New Director Named for NIMH

Last month, NIH director Elias Zerhouni, M.D., announced the appointment of Thomas R. Insel, M.D., as the new director of NIH's National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH). Dr. Insel, who currently serves as professor of the Department of Psychiatry and as director of the Center for Behavioral Neuroscience at the Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta, Georgia, is expected to begin his new position in November 2002.



Thomas R. Insel, M.D.

"After a thorough and careful search process," said Dr. Zerhouni, "it became clear that Dr. Insel's ability to communicate a compelling vision for mental health research, his outstanding scientific research career and his leadership roles in shaping research in the academic arena make him well-suited to lead the NIMH."

Dr. Insel is no stranger to NIMH. He first joined the institute in 1979, where he served in various administrative and leadership posts for 15 years. Within that time, he conducted key research in obsessive-compulsive disorder, initiating some of its first treatment trials. He also launched a research program in social neuroscience, focusing on the neurobiology of complex social behaviors in animals. In 1994, Dr. Insel went to Emory University as a professor in the Department of Psychiatry and as director of Yerkes Regional Primate Research Center. As director of the primate center, he was responsible for building one of the nation's leading HIV vaccine research programs.

Dr. Insel serves on numerous academic, scientific and professional committees, including 10 editorial boards. He is a fellow of the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology and has received awards from the National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression, the Society for Biological Psychiatry and the U.S. Public Health Service. He received his bachelor's and medical degrees from Boston University.

NLM Announces Free Film Series, Opens Dream Anatomy Exhibit

Fall brings harvest festivals and leaves changing colors, but free movies? Apparently so, as the National Library of Medicine (NLM) launches a free film festival this month to highlight its new exhibition, *Dream Anatomy*. Drawn principally from NLM's collections, *Dream Anatomy* shows off the anatomical imagination in some of its most astonishing incarnations, from 1500 to the present. Featured movies, which follow this theme, take place on select Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. (unless otherwise noted) in Lister Hill Auditorium, Building 38A on the NIH campus. On Saturday, October 26, at 3 p.m., NLM offers a special pre-Halloween feature in conjunction with the NIH Office of Community Liaison's free community health forum, *Share the Health*. (See related article on page 3.)

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| October 17 | <i>Fantastic Voyage</i>
(100 min., PG, 1961), starring Raquel Welch |
| October 24 | <i>Osmosis Jones</i>
(96 min., PG, 2001), starring Bill Murray, Lawrence Fishburne, William Shatner and Kid Rock |
| October 26, 3 p.m. | |
| October 31, 12:30 p.m. | <i>Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein</i>
(83 min., NR, 1948), starring Bud Abbott, Lou Costello, Bela Lugosi, Lon Chaney, Jr., and Glenn Strange |
| November 7 | <i>Gross Anatomy</i>
(109 min., PG-13, 1989), starring Matthew Modine and Christine Lahti |
| November 14 | <i>Innerspace</i>
(120 min., PG, 1987), starring Dennis Quaid and Meg Ryan |

For more information about NLM's movies or exhibition, call Jiwon Kim at 301-496-5963 or visit <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/dreamanatomy>. *Dream Anatomy* opens on October 9, 2002.

New Director Named for NIAAA

Ting-Kai Li, M.D., will lead the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) as its new director. Appointed by NIH director Elias Zerhouni, M.D., last month, Dr. Li comes from the Department of Medicine and of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at Indiana University School of Medicine in Indianapolis, where he recently served as distinguished professor of these departments and as director of the Indiana Alcohol Research Center.



Ting-Kai Li, M.D.

"It gives me great pleasure that one of our nation's preeminent scientists in the alcohol research field will be taking the helm at NIAAA to lead our federal alcohol research efforts," said Tommy Thompson, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

An author of more than 400 journal articles and book chapters, Dr. Li has produced ground-breaking research in several areas, including alcohol metabolism and animal models of alcoholism. He is a major participant in two NIAAA-supported research consortia—the Collaborative Study on the Genetics of Alcoholism and the Integrative Neuroscience Initiative on Alcoholism.

Dr. Li received his medical degree from Harvard University in 1959. He joined the faculty of Indiana University School of Medicine in 1971 and served as the associate dean for research from 1986–2000. Dr. Li's research accomplishments include the Markle Scholar in Academic Medicine; the Research Society on Alcoholism Award for Research Excellence; the James B. Isaacson Award for Research in Chemical Dependency Disease; the Jellinek Award; the R. Brinkley Smithers Distinguished Scientist Award; an Honorary Degree (D.Sc.) from Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine and the Mark Keller Honorary Lecture Award. Dr. Li is an honorary fellow of the Society for the Study of Addiction (UK) and is a member of the Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences. He also

serves as the current journal editor of *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research*.

Dr. Li replaces Raynard Kington, M.D., Ph.D., who has served as acting director of NIAAA since January 2002 following the retirement of Enoch Gordis, M.D., NIAAA Director from 1986 to 2002.

NIH CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

October 6

FAES Music Series: *Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia with Ignat Solzhenitsyn, conductor and pianist*, 4 p.m., Landon School Mondzac Performing Arts Center, 6101 Wilson Lane, Bethesda, Maryland, \$25, open to the public. For more information, call 301-496-7976 or visit <http://www.faes.org>.

October 8

Medicine for the Public Lecture Series: *Nutritional Therapies for Age-Related Eye Diseases* by Emily Chew, M.D., National Eye Institute, NIH, 7–8 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. Call 301-496-2563 for more information or visit <http://www.cc.nih.gov/cc/mfp/series.html>.

NLM History of Medicine Seminar Series: *Early 19th Century Syphilis Treatment: One Man's Experience* by Dr. Linda A. Fisher, 2–3:15 p.m., Conference Room B, Building 38, NIH campus, free and open to the public. Call 301-402-8878 for more information or visit http://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/seminars_2002.html.

October 9

The NIH Director's Wednesday Afternoon Lectures: *Integrating Genetics, Genomics, and Biology of Malignant Melanoma* by Jeffrey M. Trent, Ph.D., National Human Genome Research Institute, NIH, 3 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. Call Hilda Madine at 301-594-5595 for more information or visit <http://www1.od.nih.gov/wals/schedule.htm>.

October 15

Medicine for the Public Lecture Series: *The Teen Brain* by Jay Giedd, M.D., National Institute of Mental Health, NIH, 7–8 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. Call 301-496-2563 for more information or visit <http://www.cc.nih.gov/cc/mfp/series.html>.

October 15–16

The NIH Research Festival, featuring a job fair, seminars, symposia, and poster sessions, 10 a.m.–3 p.m. on Oct. 15,

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8 a.m.–5 p.m. on Oct. 16, Natcher Conference Center, Building 45, NIH campus. For more information, visit <http://festival02.nih.gov> or call 301-496-1776.

October 17–18

The Technical Sales Association Research Festival Exhibit Show, 9:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. on Oct. 17, 9:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m. on Oct. 18, tent in Parking Lot 10D, near NIH Clinical Center Blood Bank, NIH campus. For more information, visit <http://festival02.nih.gov> or call 301-496-1776.

October 20

FAES Music Series: *Auryn Quartet with David Soyer, cello*, 4 p.m., Landon School Mondzac Performing Arts Center, 6101 Wilson Lane, Bethesda, Maryland, \$25, open to the public. For more information, call 301-496-7976 or visit <http://www.faes.org>.

October 23

The NIH Director's Wednesday Afternoon Lectures: *Special Triple Lecture*, 2–4 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. Call Hilda Madine at 301-594-5595 for more information or visit <http://www1.od.nih.gov/wals/schedule.htm>.

October 26

Share the Health: An Exposition of Health Resources from NIH to Its Neighbors, *free community health event sponsored by the NIH Office of Community Liaison*, featuring health seminars, workshops, exhibits, vision and blood pressure screenings, children's activities and more, 8:30 a.m.–3 p.m., Natcher Conference Center, Building 45 on the NIH campus, free and open to the public. Visit <http://sharethehealth.od.nih.gov>, or call 301-650-8660 for more information.

October 29

Medicine for the Public Lecture Series: *Endometriosis: Scrambled Eggs and Killer Cramps* by Pamela Stratton, M.D., National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, NIH, 7–8 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. Call 301-496-2563 for more information or visit <http://www.cc.nih.gov/cc/mfp/series.html>.

October 30

The NIH Director's Wednesday Afternoon Lectures: *The SNP Endgame* by Neil J. Risch, Ph.D., Stanford University School of Medicine, 3 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. Call Hilda Madine at 301-594-5595 for more information or visit <http://www1.od.nih.gov/wals/schedule.htm>.

* Calendar items subject to change. Call to confirm event.

OTHER NEWS AND ACTIVITIES OF INTEREST

Bethesda Galleries Offer Evening Art Walks

Downtown Bethesda, known for its variety of excellent restaurants, now features a wonderful assortment of art galleries and art schools. Many of these galleries are featured on the Bethesda Urban Partnership's (BUP) "Art Walks" held on select Fridays throughout the year. Art Walks allow patrons to browse a variety of galleries after work, enjoy light refreshments and take advantage of the Bethesda 8 trolley that stops at most of the galleries on the tour. The next art walks are on October 11, November 8 and December 13, from 6–10 p.m. Whether you enjoy paintings, drawings, sculpture, photography, pottery, jewelry or mixed media, you are sure to find your favorite medium among the Art Walk participating galleries. A complete listing of the participating galleries can be found at <http://www.bethesda.org/specialevents/artwalk.htm>. For more information, call BUP at 301-215-6660.



Strathmore Hosts Family Toon Day

Join your favorite cartoon characters for a day of family fun on Sunday, October 6, 2002, at Strathmore Hall Arts Center in North Bethesda. Strathmore is once again hosting its Family Toon Day from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., giving children an opportunity to participate in games and hands-on art activities; to see musical and theater performances and to explore police and fire rescue equipment. Roving entertainers and face painters will also be on hand. Don't miss the cartoon parade and marching band at 11 a.m. Children can have their pictures taken with their favorite cartoon characters throughout the day for \$2. Parking is on Tuckerman Lane and at the Grosvenor Metro station. For more information, call Strathmore Hall Arts Center at 301-530-0540.

Montgomery County Parks Celebrate 75th Anniversary with Art Show

Nature and art have long been a winning combination. This year Montgomery County Parks celebrate

their 75th anniversary with an art show jointly sponsored with the Washington Society of Landscape Painters. From October 10 through October 26, landscape paintings of scenes from the county parks will be on view and on sale at Rockville Arts Place, 100 East Middle Lane in Rockville. On October 3, Chevy Chase Bank hosts a gala preview at its new headquarters in downtown Bethesda. Artwork is for sale and proceeds benefit the Parks Foundation. For more information, call 301-309-6900.

Nominations Needed for Outstanding Montgomery County Women

The annual Montgomery County Women's Fair, now in its 23rd year of providing a daylong event to educate and celebrate women in the county, also provides three prestigious awards in a number of categories to recognize women's contributions to our community. Nominations for 2003 are sought for the following three awards:

The Pioneer Award is to be presented to a woman resident, past resident or an organization based in Montgomery County. This person or organization must have made a major contribution to the professional field either through volunteer efforts or through establishment of a program benefitting women.

The Alpha Award is given to a past or present county resident who has achieved a "first" for women.

The Financial Award will go to a private, non-profit service organization providing educational, health, welfare or social services, singularly or in any combination, to women and families in Montgomery County.

Give some thought to the women or organizations that you know are making Montgomery County a better place and whose work or service might fit one of these categories. To be considered for an award, the nomination must include a statement of justification with supporting documentation and should be sent to: 2003 Awards Team Leader, Montgomery County Women's Fair, P.O. Box 4826, Silver Spring, MD 20814-4826. For more information, call 301-564-0618.

Rockville Holds Antique & Classic Car Show

Car enthusiasts will have an opportunity to embrace the nostalgia of the cars of yesteryear at the city of Rockville's annual Antique and Classic Car Show on Saturday, October 19, 2002. From 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., hundreds of classic cars will take over the grounds around Glenview Mansion at Rockville Civic Center Park. A car-related flea market, food and activities for kids are all planned. For more information call 240-314-8600.



New County Guide Helps Commuters

Are you looking for ways to streamline your commute to work? Why not pickup a copy of the new Montgomery County brochure, *Park and Ride Commuter Lots: A Handy Guide to Free Parking and an Easier Commute to Work*. The guide describes each Park and Ride lot in Montgomery County as well as in neighboring jurisdictions, lists bus and rail services available from each Park and Ride lot with maps and highlights two major commuter corridors—Route 29 and I-270. To have the free 26-paged guide mailed to you, call the Montgomery County's Office of Commuter Services at 301-565-7665.

TRY THIS WEB SITE:

<http://www.genome.gov>

The National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI) recently redesigned its Web site this summer with a brand new Internet address, <http://www.genome.gov>. The new site offers streamlined access to a comprehensive government site providing detailed information about NHGRI and the latest advances in genetics research. Visitors to the site can get facts about genetics, genetic disorders and ongoing clinical research as well as obtain information on the Human Genome Project, an international effort to map and sequence all of the genes in the human body. The site also features information on the ethical, legal and social implications surrounding genetics research. Be sure to visit the newly designed site to learn about the latest discoveries in genetic research.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Bone Density Study for Healthy Women

The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development is seeking healthy young women, age 18–32, to participate in a bone mineral density research study. To be eligible, candidates can not be pregnant, nursing or planning pregnancy in the next three years; can not take oral contraceptives or other prescribed medicines and must not smoke more than two cigarettes or drink more than two alcoholic drinks a day. All participants must have a regular menstrual cycle. Participation involves four visits over a three-year period and includes blood tests, bone density and urine tests and cognitive testing. Compensation is provided. Call 1-800-411-1222 (TTY, 1-866-411-1010) for more information.

Children with Uveitis and Juvenile Rheumatoid Arthritis

Doctors at NIH seek children for the study of a new treatment for Uveitis (Enbrel®). There is no cost to participate. For more information, call 1-800-441-1222 (TTY, 1-866-411-1010).

Do you have Crohn's Disease?

NIH physicians are looking for patients with Crohn's Disease to take part in a drug treatment study. For more information, call 1-800-441-1222 (TTY, 1-866-411-1010).

Study on Genital Herpes

If you have genital herpes, you may be eligible for a study at NIH to learn more about the Epstein Barr virus, part of the herpes virus family. For more information, call 1-800-441-1222 (TTY, 1-866-411-1010).

The OCL Update is available on our Web site at <http://ocl.od.nih.gov>. If you would rather view this document online and not receive a printed version, please contact the OCL office at 301-496-3931. If you would like to list an upcoming event of interest to the local community, call Terry LaMotte at Palladian Partners, OCL support contractor, at 301-650-8660, or send her an e-mail at tlamotte@palladianpartners.com.

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